

REMARKS

The present response amends claim 10 in conformity with the following remarks. In addition, claims 18, 20, 21, and 23-25 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer as to the subject matter recited therein. The amendment to claim 10 does not introduce new subject matter nor does it warrant a new search. Claims 1-6, 8-13, 15-17, and 19 remain pending in the captioned case.

Allowed and Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-6, 8, and 9 were deemed allowed in their present form. In addition, claim 18 was deemed to contain allowable subject matter. In order to expedite prosecution, the limitations of claim 18 have been incorporated into independent claim 10. Accordingly, it is believed that claim 10 and claims dependent therefrom are in condition for allowance.

Objection to Claims

An objection was lodged against claim 10 for an informality. In response thereto, a typographical error has been corrected so that “the pair of cross-coupled transistors” now reads “the pair of cross-coupled inverters.” Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request removal of this objection.

Section 103 Rejection

Claims 10-13, 15-17, 19-21, and 23-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over combinations of U.S. Patent No. 5,097,449 to Cuevas; U.S. Patent No. 6,141,247 to Roohparvar et al.; U.S. Patent No. 5,999,447 to Naura et al.; U.S. Patent No. 5,812,477 to Casper et al.; U.S. Patent No. 6,617,914 to Kothandaraman; and U.S. Patent No. 6,297,103 to Ahn et al. Claims 20, 21, and 23-25 have been canceled rendering rejection thereto moot. Moreover, in light of amendments to claim 10 which incorporate the allowable subject matter from claim 18, it is believed that the rejection of claim 10 and claims dependent therefrom (claims

11-13, 15-17, and 19) has been obviated in its entirety. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request removal of this rejection.

CONCLUSION

The present amendment and response is believed to be a complete response to the issues raised in the final Office Action mailed May 30, 2006. In view of the amendments herein, Applicants assert that pending claims 1-6, 8-13, 15-17, and 19 are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions, comments, or suggestions, the undersigned attorney earnestly requests a telephone conference.

No fees are required for filing this amendment; however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Daffer McDaniel, LLP Deposit Account No. 50-3268/5298-18200.

Respectfully submitted,
/Kevin L. Daffer/
Kevin L. Daffer
Reg. No. 34,146
Attorney for Applicant(s)

Customer No. 35617
Date: July 31, 2006